

Endou et al.
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Amendments To The Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

1-16 (Cancelled).

17. (Currently Amended) Method for screening a compound for an effect on the ability of a protein to transport organic anions, ~~wherein~~ wherein the method comprises the steps of the protein is selected from:
cultivating, in the presence of a substrate comprising said organic anion, an oocyte expressing the protein selected from

(A) a protein comprising the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO 2, or

(B) a protein comprising the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO 2, to which at least one amino acid residue has been deleted, substituted or added such that the protein has at least 90% homology to SEQ ID NO 2; and

measuring the amount of organic anion transported into the oocyte.

18. (Cancelled).

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the protein comprising SEQ ID NO 2 is isolated from a human.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the protein comprising the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO 2 is isolated from kidneys.

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21. (New) A method for screening a compound inhibiting uptake of an organic anion into an oocyte, wherein the method comprises the steps of:

(1) cultivating the oocyte expressing a protein selected from:

- (A) a protein comprising the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO 2, or
- (B) a protein comprising the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO 2, to which at least one amino acid residue has been deleted, substituted, or added so as to have 90% or more homology to SEQ ID NO 2, wherein the cultivation is conducted in the presence of a labeled organic anion and a test compound;

(2) cultivating the oocyte expressing a protein selected from:

- (A) a protein comprising the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO 2, or
- (B) a protein comprising the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO 2, to which at least one amino acid residue has been deleted, substituted, or added so as to have 90% or more homology to SEQ ID NO 2, wherein the cultivation is conducted in the presence of a labeled organic anion;

(3) measuring the amount of labeled organic anion transported into the oocyte in step (1) and step (2); and

(4) comparing the amount of labeled organic anion transported to screen for a compound inhibiting uptake of an organic anion into an oocyte.